

# SOUTH AFRICA IN THE U.S. & U.K. NEWS

October 29 - 30, 2009

## Compiled by the American Libraries in South Africa

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- **McMandela? Protecting the Brand of a Legend**  
By Alex Perry, Time Magazine, Friday, Oct. 30, 2009  
<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1933177,00.html>  
Cape Town -- Nelson Mandela was still in jail when the first street was named after him. By the time he retired as president of South Africa, hundreds of streets, squares and schools bore his name, as did many more pop songs, books and movies. Not hard to understand. After all, Mandela, who endured 27 years of incarceration under apartheid only to emerge with forgiveness for his racist jailers and become an icon to the world, is an inspiring figure. But what about unauthorized books that bear Mandela's name? Or charities that use his name to boost their profile? What about, God forbid, a Mandela Burger?
- **Physicist makes high-res Milky Way photo**  
United Press International, Science News, Oct. 29, 2009  
[http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/2009/10/29/Physicist-makes-high-res-Milky-Way-photo/UPI-72581256846920/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2009/10/29/Physicist-makes-high-res-Milky-Way-photo/UPI-72581256846920/)  
MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich., Oct. 29 (UPI) -- A U.S. physics professor says he has put together 3,000 individual photographs to produce a high-resolution panoramic view of the Milky Way galaxy. Axel Mellinger of Central Michigan University said he spent 22 months and traveled more than 26,000 miles to take digital photographs at dark sky locations in South Africa, Texas and Michigan to produce the panoramic view.
- **As Donors Focus on AIDS, Child Illnesses Languish**  
By Celia W. Dugger, The New York Times, 30 October 2009  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/30/world/30child.html>  
JOHANNESBURG -- Diarrhea kills 1.5 million young children a year in developing countries -- more than AIDS, malaria and measles combined -- but only 4 in 10 of those who need the oral rehydration solution that can prevent death for pennies get it. "All the attention has gone to more glamorous diseases, but this basic thing has been left behind," said Mickey Chopra, chief of health at Unicef, which is trying to put diarrhea back on the global health agenda. "It's a forgotten disease."
- **In Celebrated Reversal, a South African President Finally Confronts Country's HIV/AIDS Epidemic**  
by Jon Cohen, Science Magazine (blog), October 29, 2009  
<http://blogs.sciencemag.org/scienceinsider/2009/10/in-celebrated-r.html>  
South African President Jacob Zuma unequivocally declared today that his country had to step up its efforts against HIV/AIDS. "We need to do more, and we need to do better, together," said Zuma in a speech to a meeting of the National Council of

Provinces in Cape Town. "Let us resolve now that this should be the day on which we start to turn the tide in the battle against AIDS." Zuma's declarations might seem like boilerplate in other countries, but they marked a sharp departure from his predecessor, Thabo Mbeki, who brought much criticism to South Africa by questioning the evidence that HIV truly caused AIDS.

- **Why It's Good To Leave the U.S. To Talk About Abortion**

By Laura Castleman, RH Reality Check, October 30 2009

<http://www.rhrealitycheck.org/blog/2009/10/30/why-it%E2%80%99s-good-to-leave-us-to-talk-about-abortion>

Earlier this month I attended a historic medical conference with over 8000 ob-gyns from around the world, gathered together in Cape Town, South Africa, for the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) conference. Many FIGO participants are physicians living in developing countries where access to comprehensive health care may pose a challenge for women. But for those living in countries with restrictive abortion laws, a large part of their practice is to care for women suffering from the complications of unsafe abortion. Attending sessions and meeting with my colleagues from around the world, it was clear what a rare opportunity it was to meet other doctors facing the same challenge.

- **U.N. Torture Investigator Refused Entrance To Zimbabwe**

Posted By: Intellpuke [Guardian UK correspondent David Smith, reporting from Johannesburg, South Africa], Free Internet Press, 2009-10-29

<http://freeinternetpress.com/story.php?sid=23401>

The United Nations torture investigator said Thursday he would recommend action against Zimbabwe after he was detained on arrival at Harare airport and deported. Manfred Nowak, the U.N. special rapporteur on torture, said he had been invited by the prime minister, Morgan Tsvangirai, and wanted to investigate reports of rising violence and intimidation. He believes that the president, Robert Mugabe, may have given the order to deny him entry. "I have never been treated as rudely by any government as the government of Zimbabwe," Nowak said after arriving back in Johannesburg, South Africa. "This mission has now failed. A lot of money was wasted because of the unacceptable behavior of the government."

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